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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

~~INTELLIGENCE REPORT~~

COUNTRY Malaya

DATE 25X1A6a

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SUBJECT Biographical Data on Mr. J. A. Brazier

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SUPPLEMENT

1. Mr. J. A. Brazier, Malayan Union Trade Union and Labor Advisor, is one of six trade union specialists appointed on a two year contract by the British Colonial Office. Although a socialist and a member of the Labor Party in Britain, he is greatly disappointed in Russia and considers her at present a 'prime imperial menace'. Very critical of Malayan Union officials, Brazier believes that the Colonial Office has now got a first class opportunity to make a 'model, up-to-date' colony of Malaya, but that this chance is being passed by through the incompetency of the government officials and their inability to act in an emergency.
2. Brazier's tendencies are pro-Chinese, neutral for the Malays and decidedly anti-Indian. He does not believe that the Overseas Chinese constitute an actual menace but he does predict Sino-Malay clashes and possibly a serious racial conflict in the far future in which Indonesia will take an active interest. The Malay Nationalist Party, according to Brazier, is just waiting for Indonesian assistance and at present they are just marking time.
3. His attitude toward the estate managers is fair and he realizes that the majority of them are laboring under severe handicaps by being unable to act because of a shortsighted pre-war policy of the home offices in London.
4. With regard to the cost of living, Brazier expects that the ultimate 'normal level' in comparison with pre-war conditions will be approximately 20 to 30 per cent higher. When this would come about would depend on world conditions in general.
5. He severely criticized the Indian estate owners in Malaya. He considers them by far the worst exploiters of Tamil labor on the estates. If their treatment of their own countrymen is a criterion of the shape of things to come in India, Brazier said, there is no hope for that country.
6. Brazier was a little shy in talking about his relations with the various labor unions. Judging from a few of his remarks, they could be considerably improved. He approves of a 'fair' fight between labor and management but opposes any set on the

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part of labor which is harmful to the people. And so far, labor in Malaya has shown little consideration for anyone.

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